



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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CAMPAIGN '99: CIVIL WAR OVER CHARTER REFORM.

Editor's note: On Mar. 2nd, the L.A. City Council voted unanimously to put a unified Charter Reform plan before L.A. city voters. The unified Charter Reform is the compromise work of the Elected and Appointed Charter Reform Commissions. It will be on the June 8th L.A. ballot. Here's **Calpeek's** update & analysis...

...The old L.A. City charter is 75 years old and Mayor Richard Riordan hopes by updating the charter and giving the mayor and the many neighborhoods new powers, and possibly expanding the council from 15 to 21 or 25, that he'll be able to head off the separatists in the San Fernando Valley who want to form a new city. **Calpeek** sources say it won't work. The hardline separatists aren't going to be satisfied with a new charter or even an expanded council...

...Nevertheless, Mayor Riordan is moving ahead and sources confirm that he's the *go-to guy* who will have to raise a large war chest. The upfront group supporting the new charter is called *The Coalition for Charter Reform* --- anchored by the L.A. Chamber of Commerce and the League of Women Voters (LWV). Riordan media consultant Bill Carrick has been hired to produce the mail/tv message...

...Labor is *split*. Some favor charter reform, but the L.A./Orange Co. Building & Construction Trade Council executive board is opposed. In terms of business groups, the L.A. Chamber and L.A. Business Advisors (LABA) are in favor, but the Valley Industry & Commerce Assn. (VICA) is opposed. FYI: LABA's main objective is increasing the council size...

...Selling charter reform won't be easy. The cost of a new L.A. City Dept. of Neighborhoods could run as much as \$9 million a year. And if voters approve an

increase in the size of the council, add another \$1 million per council seat. As one source told **Calpeek**, "If you want a bigger, more representative government, voters will have to foot the bill."...

...There is no formal opposition committee as yet, but sources believe the Building & Construction Trades Council are gearing up for a big fight. Four councilmembers have announced their opposition (Bernson, Alatorre, Svorinich & Holden) and at least two others are undecided. Two Elected Charter Reform Commissioners, Marcos Castaneda and Paula Boland, are opposed. And sources believe that the L.A. Daily News will oppose the reform, setting up a *newspaper war* with the L.A. Times, who sources think will side with Riordan in favor of charter reform. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: THE RUN FOR THE WHITE HOUSE.

Editor's note: Last week **Calpeek** took a look at the Republican presidential lineup. This week we will look at the battle between Vice President Al Gore and his only Demo opponent, former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley of New Jersey. Here's our analysis...

...With the DNC just about set to name Los Angeles as the site of its 2000 presidential nominating convention, the Veep is sitting in a very commanding position within the Democratic Party, not only nationally, but here in Calif. too. Gore has made some 53 trips to Calif. and has built up a string of IOUs. Although CA Gov. Gray Davis has not formally endorsed Gore, that's almost a done deal. And most of the other State-wide Demos also lean to Gore. Art Torres is also in Gore's camp (but not as the CDP chair)...

...And it's because of his solid position within the party establishment that Gore's early potential challengers (U.S. Senators Bob Kerrey, John Kerry and Paul Well-

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stone – and Demo House Leader Dick Gephardt) all decided to take a pass. Only Bradley and perhaps The Rev. Jesse Jackson remain as Gore rivals...

...In a nationwide Feb. 12-13 Fox News survey of registered voters, Gore grabs **48%** vs. **14%** for Bradley, **13%** for Jackson and **9%** for Kerry (who has since dropped out). **16%** were undecided. Sources say Calif. pollster Mervin Field is about ready to release a new survey he's been working on. And while this is all good news for the VP, some sources get the feeling that all this negative stuff about Pres. Bill Clinton will somehow rub off on Gore. When matched against the two GOP frontrunners, TX Gov. George W. Bush and Elizabeth Dole, Gore is beaten by both. But as some pollsters note, when former Pres. George H.W. Bush was VP in 1988, both Michael Dukakis and Gary Hart were leading at this point in the campaign. It's just the nature of the VP's office...

...Looking at Bradley, his main chore will be building a credible war chest and refining his message. Bradley has already qualified for matching funds and he recently raised \$1.5 million at a big N.J. fundraiser. Bradley has a major fundraiser set April 13th in San Francisco. He probably needs a war chest of \$25 million to have a shot at Gore. In terms of message, Bradley was certainly one of the brainier guys in the Senate and was noted for big thoughts about important subjects. Translating that into solutions which sell on the campaign trail will be his big test. Right now it appears that Bradley is going after Gore from the left, but it should be remembered that while in the Senate, Bradley was a *deficit hawk* and a *free trader*. On the campaign trail today, Bradley is more inclined to talk about campaign finance reform and health care. Can Bradley take Gore? Right now it is a long shot...

...FYI: With the CDP getting ready for its Mar. 26-28 convention in Sacramento, you'd think that Bradley's team would make contact to see about setting something up. Gore won't be there. So far – zip, nothing, nada, zero. If he doesn't show, it will be a missed opportunity. Stay tuned...

SOME INFO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CALPEEK.

Deadlines for news & Marketplace Network are 12 noon each Wednesday. Calpeek is printed and mailed each Thursday. Our FAX ☎ is (310)657-4340. Calpeek does NOT make refunds on cancellations...

CAMPAIGN 2000: UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE RACES.

Editor's note: Here's another update on some of the key legislative primary races for 2000...

☒ **79th AD** – San Diego Councilman Juan Vargas(D) is eyeing a run for Assemblywoman Denise Ducheny's 79th AD. Ducheny is *termed out*. And sources say that Ducheny is looking at Vargas' council seat...

☒ **42nd AD** – It's no rumor. Demo campaign consultant and slate maker Jill Barad is seriously exploring a run for Assemblyman Wally Knox's 42nd AD. Knox is *termed out*. She has formed an exploratory committee and sources believe she'll probably run. Others who also are exploring include West Hollywood Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Steve Martin; Dr. Daniel Stone and attorney Amanda Susskind. Community College Trustee Kelly Candaele is undecided about running...

☒ **17th AD** – Tracy Councilwoman Barbara Matthews will be running in the Demo primary for Assemblyman Mike Machado's 17th AD. Machado is *termed out*...

☒ **74th AD** – The GOP field for *termed out* Assemblyman Howard Kaloogian's 74th AD just keeps growing. At last count there were 8 GOP candidates. New entries include Escondido Police Sgt. George Durgin, Escondido Councilman Keith Beier, Lance Goebel of Solana Beach and San Dieguito school board member Sue Hartley. Already in the primary battle were Vista Councilman Ed Estes Jr., Escondido Mayor Lori Pfeiler, Encinitas Councilman James Bond and Del Mar Councilman Andy Schooler. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '99: EARLY SPRING MUNI ELECTIONS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key municipal races taking place this Spring...

◆ ***Pasadena Mayor's Race*** – There will be an April 20th runoff between 1st place finisher Bill Bogaard and either current Mayor Chris Holden or Councilwoman Ann-Marie Villicana. Bogaard got 7,928 or 43%, while Holden was 2nd with 4,694. Villicana was in 3rd with 4,515. There are approximately 1,900 ballots yet to be counted (the final count should be finished by Friday 3/12). In the city council elections, incumbents Joyce Streater and Paul Little won easily, as did newcomer Steve Madison in the open 6th District. In the

open 4th District, Steve Haderlein and Tim Price will be in a runoff. FYI: **Calpeek** will do a folo-up story next week (including some stuff about the *Pasadena Star News*' "unscientific" poll on the mayor's race)...

♦ **L.A. City's Prop. 1** – Although there is very little in the way of organized opposition to Prop. 1 on L.A. City's April 13th ballot, backers of a \$744 million bond measure to remodel & replace many police and fire stations throughout L.A. City still have to get a 2/3rds vote. That's a tall order, but not impossible. The main group supporting this measure is simply called YES on Public Safety. Consultant Bill Carrick is handling the media (mail/slates and maybe cable tv & radio if budget permits). Both the L.A. Chamber of Commerce and the Valley Industry & Commerce Assn.(VICA) are in support. Opposition arguments against Prop. 1 were written by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn....

♦ **L.A. Election Roundtable** – Political consultants Allan Hoffenblum, Rick Taylor and Parke Skelton will discuss the upcoming L.A. election, 12:30 p.m., Mar. 18 at the L.A. Chamber of Commerce. *L.A. Daily News* political columnist Rick Orlov will moderate. For info (213)580-7565. Stay tuned...

FIXING CALIF. OPEN PRIMARY LAW HITS A SNAG.

Editor's note: The legislative fix to mend Calif.'s broken Open Primary Law was supposed to be a slam dunk. Wrong! Here's our update & analysis...

...Again, we'd like to *clone* former CDP Chair Bill Press and former CRP Chair John Herrington so that we could beat them up twice for not putting up any kind of campaign to defeat Prop. 198 in 1996. All the horrors connected with that flawed initiative are now coming home to roost and a legal challenge by the two major parties to kill the Open Primary Law failed when the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals *upheld* the law. Current CDP Chair Art Torres says the case will go to the U.S. Supreme Court, but our sources think the high court might just side with the lower courts and let the ruling (and law) stand...

...On the legislative front, two bills designed to fix the flawed portion of Prop. 198 dealing with the selection of delegates to the Presidential conventions of the RNC and DNC hit a snag. Conventional wisdom was that SB 100 by Sen. John Burton(D-SF) and SB 28 by Sen.

Steve Peace(D-Chula Vista) would both get the urgency (2/3rds) vote and would sail into the Assembly. That didn't happen. Instead, the Senate approved SB 100 by a **35-0** vote, but SB 28 only got **22** votes. GOP lawmakers boycotted SB 28 --- thus slapping GOP Sec. of State Bill Jones in the face. Jones is the co-sponsor of SB 28. More GOP civil war. So what's new???

...Jones and the CA Demo Party have separate legal opinions stating that the *double ballot* provisions of SB 100 conflicts with CA's Open Primary Law and thus could be tossed out on a legal challenge. Both the RNC and DNC have rules banning cross-party voting in the selection of delegates to the presidential nominating conventions. SB 100's key point permits the GOP to have two ballots – with the 2nd ballot just for GOP registered voters. SB 28 does the same thing with only a single ballot – by coding...

...FYI: SB 100 also contains some language similar to the Peace-Jones bill. Thus if the double ballot part of SB 100 is declared illegal, the Peace-Jones portion may still remain. The CA Republican Party seems to think that only the double ballot fix of SB 100 will work. The CA Demo Party says it has no problem with either bill. What's going to happen? Assembly Demos are insisting SB 100 be rewritten in such a way so if the double ballot part is tossed, the Peace-Jones approach remains intact. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2000: U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Editor's note: Here's another update on key races for the U.S. House in 2000...

☒ **10th CD** – Gordon Blake, a businessman from Brentwood and currently Secretary of the Contra Costa Co. GOP Central Cmt., has announced the formation of an exploratory committee. Blake ran in the GOP primary in '98 and came in second. This CD is represented by U.S. Rep. Ellen Tauscher(D). FYI: Tauscher has filed for divorce from her husband --- and a story by Daniel Borenstein in the *Contra Costa Times* paints a picture of a rather nasty split...

☒ **49th CD** – La Jolla attorney Wade Sanders, a former Under Sec. of the Navy in the Clinton Admin., is seriously exploring a run against U.S. Rep. Brian Bilbray(R-San Diego). He's a Gold Star/Purple Heart Vietnam vet and is said to be close to both Demo U.S.

Senators Bob Kerrey of NE and John Kerry of MA. He was in DC this past week “exploring.” If Demo Assemblywoman Susan Davis is serious, she’d better make up her mind --- and PDQ. FYI: other sources in San Diego say Davis might run for Councilwoman Chris Kehoe’s seat. Kehoe is vacating the council to run for Davis’ 76th AD seat in 2000...

☒ **22nd CD** – Former Santa Barbara Co. Sup. Mike Stoker(R) is once again eyeing a run for this seat now held by U.S. Rep. Lois Capps(D). Stoker jumped into the special election when Walter Capps(D) died suddenly in October of 1997. However, when the GOP powers-that-be asked Stoker to step down in favor of Brooks Firestone, Stoker complied...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are few items, political and otherwise, worth noting...

■ ***It's the Infrastructure, Stupid!*** – That could be the campaign cry of 2000 because it appears there could be millions and millions of dollars in bond measure facing voters next June & November. State Sen. John Burton(D-SF) is proposing \$16 billion in bonds for transportation (roads, highways, freeways, bridges) spread out over 4 general election cycles; State Assemblyman Bill Leonard(R-Upland) is proposing \$2 billion in water bonds for the Mar. 7, 2000 ballot (for flood protection, clean water and water supply projects); and the Calif. High Speed Rail Authority wants voters to approve a \$23 billion plan in November of 2000 for a huge north/south high speed rail systems. Add it all up and you're looking a \$29 billion alone in 2000 – if all 3 bond plans are OKed by voters...

■ ***Tobacco Wars – Round II*** – Benicia businessman Ned Roscoe, who owns a chain called *Premium Tobacco Stores*, has submitted paperwork to the AG's office for an initiative to repeal Prop. 10, approved by voters last November. It's a statute and needs 419,260 signatures to qualify for the Mar. 7, 2000 ballot. Roscoe says he'll spend \$1 million qualify the measure...

■ ***Libertarian Party's New Officers*** – Mark Hinkle of Morgan Hill has been reelected chair of the Libertarian Party of Calif. Rodney Austin of Fresno is the new Northern vice chair, while Ted Brown of San Gabriel

is the party's Southern vice chair. Sandi Webb of Simi Valley is the new secretary, while Eric S. Lund of Sacto is the new treasurer...

CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● P/A consultant Catherine Matsuyo Tompkinson has been appointed Bay Area Regional Director of Community & Govt. Relations for Catholic Healthcare West...

● David Guy has been named executive director of the Northern Calif. Water Assn...

● Political fundraiser Ann Gonzalez Kramer has joined Sacto-based The Bovee Co. as a Sr. VP...

● Political consultant Jeff Flint has closed his own consulting firm and has joined Sacto-based Russo, Marsh + Rogers as a VP...

CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK

● **Established trade association** seeks Legislative Advocate to join its expanded government relations program. Must have familiarity with state government or issues related to infrastructure. Naturally, good written and oral skills are necessary. Send resume with salary history to hrdept@celsoc.org...

● **Los Angeles based**, sixty-year-old association looking for Executive Director. Self-starter, political experience, special events, publish newsletters. Tremendous growth potential, competitive salary. Fax resume to Jennifer @ (310)446-1896...

● **Seeking development director** to manage fast-paced grassroots organization in San Francisco. Responsible for raising organization's community profile, overseeing fundraising, training volunteers. Looking for motivated, organized individual with superb oral, written and organizational skills. Excellent travel and benefits package. Salary DOE. Send cover letter/resume to: Office Manager, 49 Geary St., #520, San Francisco, CA 94108 or fax to (415)989-5202...

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